



*News From*

# JACK DOYLE

## MONROE COUNTY EXECUTIVE

**For Immediate Release**  
**Wednesday, February 21, 2001**

### **COUNTY ACQUIRES SPECIALIZED EQUIPMENT TO FIGHT TERRORISM**

#### **\$200,000 Federal Grant Boosts Domestic Preparedness**

Monroe County Executive Jack Doyle today announced that specialized equipment to strengthen domestic preparedness against terrorism has been purchased and assigned to various local municipal agencies in accordance with a national program funded and sponsored by the United States Department of Justice.

"The equipment we purchased from funds provided by the U.S. government's \$200,000 grant will help us refine and greatly sharpen our emergency response skills in Monroe County," said Doyle. "Monroe County has long maintained a Terrorism Response Plan as an annex to the Monroe County Comprehensive Emergency Plan and the distribution of this specialized equipment will strengthen our response capability," said Doyle.

As a result of the New York Trade Center bombing and the Oklahoma City bombing tragedy, the federal government determined a need to train and equip local emergency responders to the threat of domestic terrorism in the United States. An initiative, formed under a Defense Authorization Bill passed in 1996, provides funding for the Department of Defense to enhance the capability of federal, state and local emergency responders in incidents involving nuclear, biological and chemical terrorism. Last August, County personnel received special training coordinated by a federal interagency team comprised of representatives from the Federal Bureau of Investigation, Federal Emergency Management Agency, Department of Energy, Environmental Protection Agency, Department of Health and Human Services, and the Department of Defense.

In September of 1999, Monroe County submitted a grant application to the U.S. Department of Justice to obtain specialized equipment in support of the domestic preparedness initiative. Participants, lead by the County's Public Safety Director Gary Pence, included County Fire/HazMat, City Fire/HazMat, County Sheriff Department, City Police Dept., County Emergency Medical Services (EMS), and the County Health Department.

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The equipment purchased and assigned to various agencies across the county includes encryption radios that are secure from eavesdroppers, specialized bomb suits, chemical warfare detectors, disposable tyvek suits, level A and level B encapsulated suits, butyl rubber gloves, chemical resistant boots and chemical canister masks.

The specialized equipment provides emergency personnel with an improved capacity for chemical detection and greatly improved personal protection during a hazardous materials cleanup or similar emergency.

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